



THE MONTGOMERY COUNTY RECYCLETTER



Summer 2010

Number 84

Program Update

Summer is here! Many of you are enjoying hard-earned time off from school or work. I hope everyone enjoys their time of relaxation! The best part of the summer are the summer activities which provide us with lots of opportunities to share with people all there is to know about recycling!

As always we depend on you to help us with outreach events and getting the word out about recycling to your family, friends, and neighbors.

During our recent annual recognition ceremony, we recognized all active volunteers for their efforts and dedication. Six volunteers received an outstanding recycling volunteer award because of their outstanding job as volunteers (see page 2 for details). Overall, in fiscal year 2010 (July 1, 2009 through June 30, 2010) 142 volunteers donated more than 1,300 hours of service to the Division of Solid Waste Services. We thank everyone for their time and for their continued support.

Keep up the great work!

Recycling Volunteer Coordinator



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Frequently Asked Questions

What happens to the trash once it gets picked up from my home?

Very few people ever think about what happens to their trash or recycling. Somehow the trash/recycling fairy shows up and the trash/recyclables disappear. The reality is that someone has to take care of disposing of the material and something has to happen to the trash and recyclables. So what really happens? Where does it all go?

The recyclables are picked up at the curb and transported to the Montgomery County Recycling Center and sorted by type of material. Commingled materials are separated and then shipped to manufacturers that will turn your recyclables into something new. Mixed paper is loaded onto trucks and taken to Office Paper Systems where paper is sorted and baled. Recycled paper is made into a variety of products including recycled paper.

The trash is picked up at the curb and taken to the Montgomery County Solid Waste Transfer Station. From there, the trash is loaded onto train cars and hauled to the Montgomery County Resource Recovery Facility in Dickerson where the waste is converted into energy.

Free paint!

Don't forget, during the warm months, paint is available at the Montgomery County Solid Waste Transfer Station/ Recycling Center for anyone to pick up. Paint is offered on a first-come, first-served basis, and colors are not guaranteed. Be prepared to show your ID/Driver's license.

The Montgomery County Solid Waste Transfer Station/ Recycling Center is located at 16101 Frederick Rd., Derwood, MD 20855.





Superstars!

On May 25, 2010, recycling volunteers were honored at the Division of Solid Waste Services' annual Recycling Volunteer

Appreciation Ceremony. This year we highlighted six volunteers for their exceptional dedication. The 2010 Recycling Volunteer Award recipients were:

Esther Foxe - Esther has been an active volunteer with the Recycling Volunteer Program since 1994. Esther has volunteered many hours at the County Fair, at various composting events, and educating her neighbors about recycling. Since 1994, Esther has contributed more than 100 hours of service to the Division.

Christopher Leung - Chris volunteers at the Division's office on a weekly basis helping out with filing, copying, and data entry. In FY10, Chris contributed more than 85 hours of his time to support the Division's efforts.

Louise Marshall - Louise has been a volunteer with the Recycling Volunteer program since July 2008. Louise has participated in various outreach events and educated her neighbors about recycling. In July and August of 2009, Louise distributed recycling brochures to nearly 500 homes in her neighborhood.

Sarah Pan - Sarah has been a volunteer with the Recycling Volunteer Program since July 2008. In August 2009, Sarah, contributed 65 hours of her time volunteering at the Division's educational booth at the County Fair. Since becoming a volunteer, Sarah has contributed 79 hours of her time.

Janice Devine and Kenneth Lavish - Janice and Ken have been volunteers with the Recycling Volunteer Program since July 2008. Both Janice and Ken have participated in multiple outreach events. For FY10, Janice contributed 27 hours of time and Ken contributed 26 hours of service to the Division. Since 2008 they have each individually contributed more than 40 hours of service.

Pictured with the awardees in the photographs, from left to right: Ms. Eileen Kao, Chief, Waste Reduction and Recycling Section; Mr. Alan Pultyniewicz, Recycling Coordinator; and Ms. Ana Arriaza, Recycling Volunteer Coordinator.



Esther Foxe receiving Outstanding Recycling Volunteer award.



Christopher Leung receiving Outstanding Recycling Volunteer award.



Sarah Pan receiving Outstanding Recycling Volunteer award.



Volunteers honored during the Annual Recycling Volunteer appreciation ceremony.

How to encourage someone to recycle?

Has anyone ever told you “I don’t recycle”?

How do you encourage someone that recycling is the best thing to do? Provide them with facts and information.

Saves energy

Recycling a single plastic bottle can conserve enough energy to light a 60-watt light bulb for up to six hours!

Energy Savings from Recycling	
Product	Energy Used
Aluminum can	95% less
Steel/tin food can	74% less
Plastic bottle	70% less
Paper	64% less

Producing new plastic products from recycled materials uses two-thirds less energy than making products from virgin materials.

Saves natural resources

When we throw recyclable materials in the trash, that material is never used again. When we recycle, we use existing materials helping to save natural resources.

150 million metric tons of scrap materials are recycled annually including: 81.6 million tons of iron and steel, 5 million tons of aluminum, 1.8 million tons of copper and 2 million tons of stainless steel.

- Institute of Scrap Recycling Industries (ISRI)



Recycled metal awaiting to be processed back into metal items.

Saves Money!

Yes, it is cheaper to recycle instead of throwing away materials. For example, when a company disposes material at the Montgomery County Transfer station,

they are charged \$56 per ton. However, when they dispose of yard trim at the transfer station they are charged \$40 per ton. For scrap metal or commingled material the charge is **\$0 per ton!** Some paper recycling companies will pay businesses for paper that is recycled. While collection companies charge for their time and for the cost of transporting the material, it definitely is cheaper than transporting and paying for the disposal of trash. Now this is just in Montgomery County, however surrounding jurisdictions have similar fees.

It is EASY!

Regardless of whether you live or work in Montgomery County, all you have to do is choose the correct container. You don’t have to drive anywhere, you don’t have to pay extra to recycle anything, all that needs to be done is use the correct container. That’s it! Someone else takes care of the rest!

So why is it important to recycle?

Recycling reuses materials, it is economical, it’s easy, and it saves natural resources.

Once you have informed someone of why it is important to recycle, we hope that they make the right choice. Do not yell or badger them; the worst thing that can happen is that they say they don’t care. They will eventually come around.

Montgomery County Agricultural Fair



The Division of Solid Waste Services’ will have a booth at the Montgomery County Agricultural Fair to educate the community about recycling, waste reduction, and recycling updates.

Visit us to pick up updated recycling information, to learn what is new in the world of recycling, or just to say hello.

If you have any questions, call Ana Arriaza at 240-777-6445 or e-mail ana.arriaza@montgomerycountymd.gov.

**MONTGOMERY COUNTY
DIVISION OF SOLID WASTE SERVICES
RECYCLING VOLUNTEER PROGRAM
101 Monroe Street, 6th Floor
Rockville, Maryland 20850**



2010 Summer Events Calendar

For more information about the events below, please contact the Recycling Volunteer Program at (240) 777-6445 or e-mail us at ana.arriaza@montgomerycountymd.gov.
All of our activities are approved Student Service Learning experiences.



Date	Time	Event	Location
July	9	6pm to 9pm	Damascus Day
	10	10am to 4pm	Damascus Day
August	3	TBD	National Night Out Celebrations
	13 - 21	9am to 9pm	Montgomery County Agricultural Fair
	28	11am to 2pm	MCPS Back to School Fair
September	19	12pm to 5pm	Celebrate Gaithersburg in Olde Towne
	25	10am to 4pm	Poolesville Day

We will keep you updated as more events get added to the calendar!